

job that was done on the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HENRY HYDE).

Chuck Colson, legal counsel to the President under Richard Nixon, was sent to Federal prison for disclosing one-half of one FBI file. This administration: Hundreds of FBI files ended up in the hands of an opposition researcher for the Democratic Party at the White House. Nixon had an enemies list of people they would not invite to luncheons. This administration has a list of people it has set out to destroy.

Mr. Speaker, we have here a pattern of abuse, personal attacks on the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. HELEN CHENOWETH), the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DAN BURTON) and now the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary. This is unconscionable. None of us is perfect, but we will not be intimidated, we will not be blackmailed. This administration is mirroring the worst types of lies, of Watergate lies and abuses, only it is worse.

To those who set forth this strategy of trying to disclose decades-old indiscretions in order to intimidate the Members of Congress, it will not work. We will not be intimidated.

THE SURPLUS BELONGS TO SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, Social Security is the single most successful domestic program in our Nation's history, we all know that. It is a long-term financial bedrock for this country's elderly, for disabled, hardworking American families. Two-thirds of our elderly depend on Social Security for over half of their income. Social Security keeps 800,000 children out of poverty every year.

Mr. Speaker, right now Social Security is under attack. What we have here is a situation where the Republican leadership of this House wants to raid the Social Security Trust Fund in order to provide an \$80 billion tax break.

I am for tax cuts, Democrats are for tax cuts, but let me just say this to my colleagues:

If it was not for the Social Security Trust Fund, what people have to understand, we would not be showing a budget surplus. The surplus belongs to Social Security. It is not a spare cookie in the bottom of the jar just for the taking, and that is why Democrats are insisting that we should put any budget surplus toward the trust fund; let us not raid it.

WHITE HOUSE INVESTIGATING MEMBERS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE

(Mr. DELAY and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, we are witnessing more signs of the White House's scorched earth strategy. Allies of the President are now dishing dirt on the most respected Member of this House. This is a direct assault on the United States House of Representatives.

And do not be under any illusions that this is a partisan affair because, according to reports, allies of the President's are investigating Members of both sides of the aisle.

Now, Mr. Speaker, making a mistake is far different than, for example, obstructing justice. Abuse of power is far more serious than having an affair 30 years ago.

I just urge the President of the United States to stop his allies from engaging in this kind of disgusting conduct, and all of those who are blindly supporting this President ought to be ashamed of themselves.

This is a very sad day for democracy.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FY 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 541 and ask for immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 541

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from South Boston, Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. All time yielded will be for the purposes of debate only.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 128, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1999. It is a closed rule providing for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule provides that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment and one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, the reality of divided government is that it takes a lot of hard work, tough decisions and sometimes uncomfortable confrontations to

enact major legislation. Certainly, funding the trillion dollar Federal Government falls into that category. Honest disagreements exist between the congressional majority and the President, the House and the Senate, the Democrats and the Republicans, and even within the two party caucuses in both the House and the Senate.

Every family that is forced to live on a budget, and that is most of the working people I know, understand that it is a lot harder to make spending decisions when they cannot just buy everything they want. That is the reality for working moms and dads who sit around the kitchen table and try to find the money for new school clothes, a short family vacation or finally replacing that beat-up old television set.

Last year's historic balanced budget agreement was a great victory for American families because it finally forced the President and Congress to make their own hard spending decisions. Imposing a real budget on the voracious Federal bureaucracy makes the appropriations job a lot tougher. While I am sure most compassionate Americans would feel badly for the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) and his counterpart, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) who is not here on the floor, and the subcommittee chairman and ranking Democrats who have been asked to craft the 13 spending bills, I am also confident that they prefer those headaches to the rampant spending and deficits of not too many years ago.

I am equally confident, Mr. Speaker, that we will overcome the hurdles in the way of the appropriation process and will keep the Federal Government open and functioning into and through the new fiscal year. I certainly know of the commitment of the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. LIVINGSTON) and our entire Republican leadership team to do just that.

This continuing resolution funds ongoing projects and activities of the Federal Government at current rates except in instances that the Congress and administration agree on lower levels. This spending authority expires on October 9 of this year or when the regular appropriations bills are enacted.

Mr. Speaker, this is a clean continuing resolution without extraneous provisions, new projects or new spending initiatives. Recognizing the very real importance of focusing greater attention on making sure our government's mission-critical computer systems are able to handle the transition to the year 2000, this CR permits a funding increase for necessary computer conversions.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that nearly unprecedented political and budgetary challenges face this Congress at this time. However, I know we will rise above them and get the people's work done. This fair, clean, continuing resolution will give us the time we need to finish the fiscal year 1999 appropriations bills within the